

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A process for depleting monovalent cations from water which comprises about 3 g/l of total ions or less comprising the following successive steps:

subjecting said water to standard pressure reverse osmosis wherein retentate from said reverse osmosis has a higher ionic concentration than said water, subjecting said retentate to electrodialysis, and recovering from the electrodialysis water depleted in monovalent cations, wherein the yield of said water depleted in monovalent cations is about 100% and the yield of divalent cations is at least about 65%.

2. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the permeate from the reverse osmosis is added to said water depleted in monovalent cations.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the sodium content of said water ranges from about 20 mg/l to about 150 mg/l.

6. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the water depleted in monovalent cations comprises less than about 20 mg/l of sodium.

7. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the pressure of the reverse osmosis is less than about 10 MPa.

8. (Original) The process according to claim 7, wherein the pressure of the reverse osmosis ranges from about 0.2 MPa to about 5 MPa.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com